

# The American Observer

*A free, virtuous, and enlightened people must know well the great principles and causes on which their happiness depends.—James Monroe*

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## Complex Tasks Face Marshall

**Successor to Byrnes Will Have Help from Large Staff of State Department**

IN the week and a half since James Byrnes resigned as Secretary of State, after holding the post some 18 months, there has been much praise and some criticism of the way in which he conducted the nation's foreign relations. His supporters say that he did a great deal to strengthen both the United Nations and America's position in world affairs. His critics insist that he too often adopted an uncompromising attitude toward Russia, thereby causing needless crises.

It is a fact that, for a time, Russian-American differences reached such a stage, the fear of a new war became widespread. It is also a fact that relations between these two countries are better today than when Byrnes took over the job as Secretary of State. To what extent, if any, does Byrnes deserve blame for the crisis period, and how much credit is due him for the present improved situation? These are questions which will long be debated.

Of greater interest at the moment, however, is what may be expected from the new Secretary of State, General George C. Marshall. His appointment has met with overwhelming approval of the American people. His personal qualities and military talents are universally respected.

Despite the wide acclaim his appointment has received, there have been a few skeptical voices raised. A  
(Concluded on page 2)



ALL NATIONS OF THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE are keeping close watch on President Peron's activities in Argentina

## Argentina Plans Changes

**President Peron Given Dictatorial Power as Nation Embarks on Program Of Social Reform, Industrial Development, and Rapid Military Expansion**

ARGENTINA is setting to work on an ambitious program of national development. The plan, prepared by President Juan Peron, has been laid before the Argentine Congress, and that body, always obedient to the President's demands, is passing the necessary laws to start the experiment this month.

The main purpose is to raise living standards, establish manufacturing industries, and make of Argentina a nation prosperous in peace and powerful in war. The job of putting this program into effect is being turned over by Congress to the President, who will rule practically as a dictator, with almost complete authority over

the industry and the lives of the people.

The Argentine government gives itself five years in which to achieve its purpose. The program is called a "Five Year Plan." Whether the nation can be transformed in this period of time remains to be seen. Certainly the master minds behind the program have taken on an enormous task. The country they are undertaking to make over is big, thinly settled, chiefly rural, with a scant supply of certain important minerals and metals. It has a relatively small but capable population. Many of the people are exceptionally well educated.

Argentina is a third the size of the United States with a population a

tenth as large as ours. About as many people live in that country as in the state of New York. From the northern boundary to the southern tip the distance is 2,300 miles, about three-fourths of the distance from New York to San Francisco. Crossing Argentina on an east-west line at the widest point, one would travel 900 miles.

The northern part of Argentina is hilly, heavily wooded with tropical vegetation and is poorly developed. The central section, where most of the people live, is a flat-plains region, where agriculture is the principal industry. Many of the farms or ranches are large; some of them consisting of 15 to 20 thousand acres, or even more. These large estates are farmed with modern tools and machinery.

The wealthy estate owners usually live in the cities. The work is done by hired labor. The workers live in poor quarters and are not well paid. Near the cities there are many small farms, frequently operated by families of Italian descent.

The principal crops in the central section are wheat, corn, flax, and oats. Cattle and hogs are raised extensively. The southern section of the country is given over quite largely to sheep raising.

In the cities there are large flour mills and packing plants, but not many factories. The Argentines sell beef, pork, hides, and wheat to foreigners, and import machinery, farm implements, railway equipment, coal oil, metals and a variety of manufactured products.

In central Argentina there are a number of fair-sized cities and the capital of the nation, Buenos Aires, is one of the great cities of the world—almost as large as Chicago. It is a beautiful city with many parks and broad, tree-lined avenues. It is sometimes called the Paris of the West, and  
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## Why Do Good Work Now?

By Walter E. Myer



Walter E. Myer

MOST of the readers of this page are going to want jobs sometime. Each one of you, with a few exceptions, will stand before an employer one of these days, asking for a chance. When that time comes, the employer will probably ask about your school record. He may ask for a record of your grades or he may communicate with the school authorities. He will want references. He will want to know what your principal and your teachers think of you.

Why will he ask these things? Grades, you may say, aren't very important. There is no reason to think, you may argue, that you will do the same kind of work at your job that you did in school. Perhaps you are right. Because of certain exceptional circumstances you may make a poor record in school and yet, with different inducements and under other circumstances, you may

do excellently in some position. That sometimes happens.

Such a change, however, does not come about automatically when you leave school. The pull is in the other direction. Habits which one forms early in life are likely to remain with him. If, while a person is in school, he gets into the habit of doing poor work, he can lift himself to higher levels only by great effort. That is why it is so important that students acquire habits of doing the very best work they are capable of doing.

If one has made a poor record in school, or only a fair record, he need not despair. It will be harder for him to get a good job than if he had proved himself capable, efficient, and dependable in school, and if he had gained the reputation of conquering difficulties. It is a fact, though, that a conscientious boy or girl can find an opening in time, and if he (or she) has courage and determination, he can prove his worth and start up the ladder. But why handi-

cap yourself unnecessarily? Why wait to begin the upward climb?

Perhaps you have the feeling that the courses you are now required to take are not very interesting and possibly not very important. That may be true. The chances are that they are more valuable than you may think and that they will prove interesting if you will get to work and really master them. If that does not prove to be the case; if after having made a real effort to do well in a course, you still do not like it, you should talk the problem over with your instructors. Perhaps you should change to other courses more suited to your abilities and interests.

Meanwhile, do what you can with the work that is before you. It will mean a great deal in the development of your character and in the advancement of your education if you will take up the problems as they come along and conquer them. Show that you have what it takes to go through with your tasks and come out on top.



# Marshall Takes Over

(Concluded from page 1)

small minority of observers feel it is a mistake to have a top general serve as Secretary of State. They put forth their case in this way:

"Military men, throughout their careers, are schooled to think in terms of war, not of peace. They are inclined to look with suspicion upon any disarmament programs or other international plans to maintain peace in the world. The idea is drilled into them that a nation, to be safe, must always keep as powerful a military force as possible.

"Such thinking, if followed by our Secretary of State, might prevent satisfactory American cooperation with the United Nations. It might also weaken our leadership efforts to work out truly effective disarmament and atomic-control programs."

This criticism might be taken seriously by the American people if it applied to a general who did not possess Marshall's unusual qualities. His record shows that he is not a narrow-minded military leader. He is known to favor American cooperation with every safe and legitimate international plan to eliminate future wars and to reduce the world's great burden of military costs.

## Wartime Experience

In his new job, Marshall can make good use of the lessons he learned in his wartime role as head of the greatest Army in the nation's history. As Chief of Staff, he had to work with the military and political leaders of many other nations in the task of merging conflicting plans into a single program under which victory could be won. In addition, he took part in the meetings which brought together Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin, thereby gaining valuable experience in dealing with representatives of other nations.

During the past year, Marshall has been in China making a supreme attempt to bring the opposing leaders of that country together on peaceful terms. Few Americans blame him for being unable to achieve his objective, since he did all that any outsider could possibly have done to end the conflict in that country. His attitude of patience, understanding, and fairness won him popularity among all Chinese except the fanatical extremists.

These same qualities have gained for Marshall the confidence of Soviet leaders. Stalin, after meeting him at several conferences, came to like and respect him. He is said to have been impressed with Marshall's able and fair conduct of America's military affairs during the war.

Naturally, no one expects our new Secretary of State to get along perfectly with the Soviet leaders. Russia and the United States have deep-seated differences of opinion, and their foreign officials are certain to engage in sharp verbal conflicts from time to time. Nevertheless, Marshall is expected to work as harmoniously with that country as is possible without sacrificing America's vital interests and security.

Of course the Secretary of State does not have full power over American foreign policy, and he does not work alone in dealing with other nations. He must follow the general program laid down by Congress and the President, and in his everyday

work he depends very heavily upon his assistants and advisers in the State Department.

The President, particularly, has great powers over our foreign policy. He can engage in many dealings with other countries without the consent of Congress.

On big questions, such as making treaties and entering into important foreign agreements, the President must have the approval of the Senate. But after the treaty or agreement is adopted, it is the President's responsibility to see that the terms and provisions are carried out.

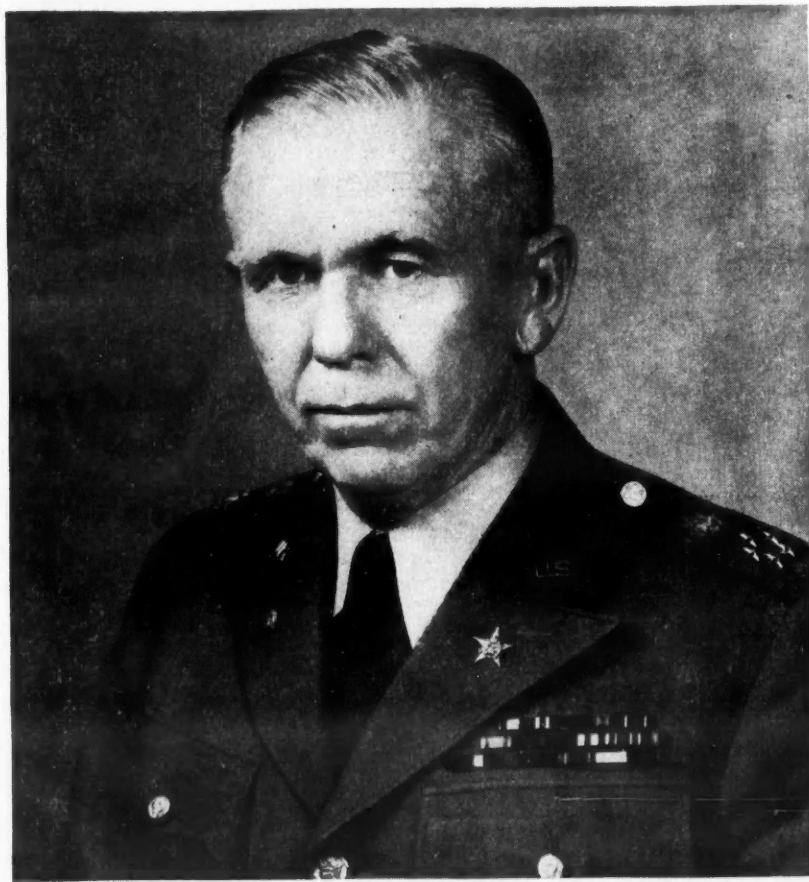
Naturally, he cannot personally handle all the questions which arise in our relations with other nations. The world has become so closely inter-

for him in Washington, and nearly 6,000 in foreign lands. He is head of a large and complicated organization.

The Secretary of State has six assistant secretaries who specialize on our relations with certain areas of the world or on specific international problems. There is also an Under Secretary who manages the Department when the chief is away.

The six assistants, together with the Secretary of State, the Under Secretary, and several other special advisers, meet together regularly and discuss the broad problems before the State Department and how they can be dealt with most effectively. This group is known as the Secretary's Staff Committee.

Under each of the assistant secretaries are a number of smaller bureaus which specialize on specific problems and areas. There are far too many of these to be listed in full, but here are a few which are typical:



General George C. Marshall, Secretary of State

woven that many problems must be taken care of every day in the dealings among countries.

Some of these problems involve foreign trade, shipping, international aviation, communications. Others include the conditions under which people may travel in foreign countries, may own property, may operate businesses.

Since the President cannot possibly deal with all these and other matters himself, he has people to help him. He turns over most of his work to the State Department. At the head of this department is the Secretary of State. It is his job to carry out the decisions on foreign policy which are made by the President and Congress.

Our nation, in its infancy, had so little contact with other countries that the amount of work performed by the Secretary of State was small. Thomas Jefferson, who was the first man to serve in this position, directed a department consisting of only 24 persons.

Today, however, our foreign relations have become so involved and so far-reaching that the Secretary of State has over 3,000 people working

Petroleum Division; Division of Chinese Affairs; Division of Japanese Affairs; Division of Philippine Affairs; Division of Southern European Affairs; Division of Mexican Affairs; Division of International Organization Affairs; Central Translating Division; Division of Geography and Cartography; Passport Division.

These smaller bureaus do the everyday, routine work of the department. They carry out the orders of the top officials. They make studies and investigations in their special fields.

All our relations with foreigners, however, cannot be carried on in Washington. The bulk of the work has to be done in foreign lands. Hence, the State Department maintains an extensive foreign service.

This service includes the diplomatic officials and their employees in American embassies and legations throughout the world. Ordinarily, ambassadors are sent to larger and more important nations while ministers are sent to smaller countries.

Both ambassadors and ministers are given their orders and instructions by

the Secretary of State, although they are appointed by the President. Their task is to carry on official discussions and negotiations between our State Department and the governments of the countries to which they have been sent. Their embassy and legation staffs also handle much routine business involving problems of Americans who are traveling or staying in those countries.

In addition to embassies and legations, our State Department also maintains consulates in all the important commercial cities in the world. The consuls, or officials in charge of these agencies, assist American businessmen who engage in foreign commercial enterprises.

The activities of the State Department are, indeed, far-reaching. The heart of the department is the Secretary's Staff Committee, which we have described. Its members engage in frequent discussions with the foreign ambassadors and ministers who are stationed in Washington. Moreover, into this committee flow reports from the eyes and ears of the State Department organization—that is, from the embassies, legations, and consulates all over the world.

The reports which it receives vary greatly in subject and importance. They may concern political and economic conditions in foreign countries. They may tell of violations of the rights and property of American citizens abroad. They may suggest ideas for creating good will between certain foreign countries and the United States. They may warn of foreign activities which endanger our security.

## Skilled Men Needed

Upon the reliability and thoroughness of these reports and the action taken upon them depends the effectiveness of our foreign relations. The President and Congress are often influenced by State Department information in making decisions on international policy. For this reason, it is of the greatest importance that the most capable and thoroughly trained men available be selected to serve in the State Department and in the foreign service.

We see, therefore, that it is a large and influential organization which Secretary of State Marshall is now directing. In one sense, his present job will be even harder than his previous ones have been. The task of getting people and nations to work together and agree upon common aims is much more difficult in peacetime than in wartime. Marshall, as Secretary of State, is almost certain to be the target of more criticism than was Marshall, as Chief of Staff of the United States Army.

Secretary of State George Marshall is 66 years of age. He was an honor student and football star during his years at Virginia Military Institute. After he was graduated, he became a second lieutenant in the infantry.

Marshall was a captain when he sailed for France in June 1917, and ended up a temporary colonel. General Pershing said he was the finest officer in the American Expeditionary Force.

Just before the second world conflict began, Roosevelt appointed Marshall as Chief of Staff of the U. S. Army, even though there were other men ahead of him in line for that post. Marshall was the second non-West Point man ever to be selected as Chief of Staff.



# Weekly Digest of Fact and Opinion

(The opinions quoted or summarized on this page are not necessarily endorsed by THE AMERICAN OBSERVER.)

## "1946 Lynchings," editorial, Washington Post.

For several years before 1946, the number of lynchings in the United States declined steadily. But then last year, the total jumped up again. There were six proved lynchings and four more borderline cases.

This figure, of course, is not large. Furthermore, it is encouraging to see that last year 14 threatened lynchings were prevented by officers of the law and three others by private persons. Nevertheless, we must recognize the disheartening truth that, if it were not for the vigilance of law-enforcement authorities, lynching would still be practiced on a large scale.

It is clear that crimes of this sort are likely to continue so long as a considerable number of people see them as an acceptable means of dealing with their fellow citizens. The task of education and law-enforcement is still formidable.

## "Perennial Adolescence," by Bernard Iddings Bell, Atlantic Monthly

In the radio program, "The Aldrich Family," Henry Aldrich is presented as the "typical American boy." He is "undisciplined, self-assertive, bewildered by life . . . he has acquired no facility to arrive at judgments, social or artistic, and he is apparently without religion of any kind. His time is spent in futile, pathetic and undeniably laughable misadventures in the art of living."



Jack Kelk (left) and Ezra Stone, who play the parts of Homer Brown and Henry Aldrich in the popular radio program, the "Aldrich Family."

Henry Aldrich's sister Mary is as futile and undisciplined as Henry. So are Mr. and Mrs. Aldrich. "If these Aldriches are the representative American family they are recognized to be by the multitudes who listen in to this weekly exhibition of incompetency in living, and there is small reason to doubt it, only a miracle can save America from debacle.

"Such people are unable to create or manage an effective nation, as un-



Weeds always come out easier when they're small.

Since policemen are often killed in race riots, police forces in some cities are doing all they can to eliminate conditions which cause such conflicts.

able to do that as they are to run their individual lives and face the challenges of home and neighborhood. Politically they are sure to be easy dupes of any plausible demagogue who comes along with a slogan and hillbilly band or its urban equivalent.

"Mr. and Mrs. Aldrich are too untrained in the art of thinking to understand the causes of the world's present misery and of the unanticipated fumbling of their own country in the postwar handling of its problems, foreign and domestic. They cannot understand why, in spite of material advantages beyond the dreams of men in former ages, they remain somehow so unhappy, so insecure, so restless."

The raising of the Aldriches and people like them to higher levels of education and citizenship is one of the great tasks of our time.

## "Cops Don't Have to Be Brutal," by Warner Olivier, Saturday Evening Post.

Policemen in many American cities are applying an old adage to the problem of race riots—an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

The race riots that have broken out during the past few years have been caused generally by trivial incidents followed by wild rumors. Policemen are now being trained in how to track down and check the damage of these rumors before they spread too far. They are being instructed in how to be alert for signs of trouble before violence breaks out. One police chief says:

"The attitude of individual policemen can influence citizens to respect the rights of others. Officers of strong character do much to create a public attitude favorable to effective police action in disturbances between groups."

## "If You Ask Me," by Eleanor Roosevelt, Ladies' Home Journal.

I do not agree with the point of view that we will never be able to get along satisfactorily with the Russians, but

I do think it will take a long time before the people of that country and our own really understand each other. The big differences existing between us arise very largely from the fact that Russia, as an industrial nation, is much younger and less mature than our country is. We have already achieved so many of the good things of life for which the Russians are striving, it is hard for us to understand their aggressive determination to catch up with us.

It is much easier to have confidence in people if you have a sense of security. We have gained it, and I think for that very reason we should perhaps be better able today to be generous about some of the wrong moves which are made by the Russians, largely because of their lack of security.

In many ways, Russia is today

where we were a hundred years or more ago. We did not like it when people criticized us. It was not just because of the criticism; it was because we were a little afraid that some of the things they said were probably true.

For instance, we proclaimed the Monroe Doctrine for our own security; and many of the other moves which we are reminded of as we go back through the pages of our history were made to give us a sense of security. Many a time in our history we have done high-handed things, but we have done them always with a sense of virtue because they made us more secure.

While we should remember these things, it is also important for the Russians to understand that nations with greater maturity have set up certain standards, and that to live successfully with them the effort to understand those standards must be made. They will have to stop some of the practices which are relics of the past. If a real attempt to understand each other is made, Americans and Russians can get along harmoniously.

## "Bombs From the Blue," by Roscoe Fleming, Liberty

Every day 25 million meteorites shoot through space at a terrific speed toward the earth. The great majority of these are very small, but their combined force is terrific. What saves us from destruction?

We have a "roof" over our heads—the atmosphere above the earth is like armor plate. When the meteors hit this "roof" they slow down, burn out, and disintegrate into dust. Scientists have found that the dust contains nickel, and it is this metal in the atmosphere that gives us the deep blue of the sky and our fine sunsets.

Sometimes a very large meteor does pierce the atmosphere and hits the earth head on. This is what happened thousands of years ago in Arizona, and today we can see an enormous crater on the earth's surface which the meteor left. A shower of smaller meteorites was seen by Americans in 1883 and again only last October.

## S M I L E S

Irate Passenger: "Madam, what do you mean by letting your child snatch off my wig?"

Mother: "Oh, what a relief! For a moment I was afraid he had scalped you."

★ ★ ★

Student: "What does this note you wrote on my paper say?"

Professor: "It says for you to write more plainly."

★ ★ ★

Use Lumpo soap. Doesn't lather. Doesn't bubble. Doesn't clean. It's just company in the tub.

★ ★ ★

Diner: "What kind of pie is this—apple or peach?"

Waitress: "What does it taste like?"

Diner: "Glue."

Waitress: "Then it's apple. The peach pie tastes like putty."

★ ★ ★

Prof: "What made you late for French class this morning?"

Frosh: "There are eight of us in the house and the alarm was only set for seven."

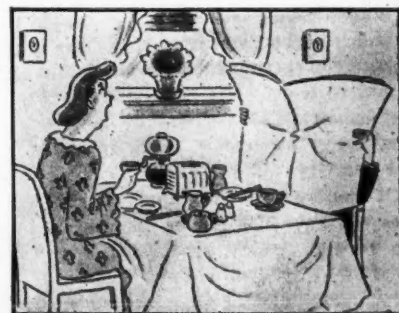
Customer in restaurant: "I don't like all the flies in here."

Waiter: "Show me the ones you don't like, sir, and I'll have them thrown out."

★ ★ ★

The bus driver asked the little girl how old she was.

"If you don't mind," she said, "I'll pay the full fare and keep my personal statistics to myself."



"Is it true, what the neighbors are saying—that you're losing your hair?"



# The Story of the Week

## Gallup Poll on UN

The United Nations seems to be growing more popular with the American people. Last summer, the American Institute of Public Opinion found only 26 out of every 100 satisfied with the way the UN was doing its work. In their latest survey, the pollsters found 39 per cent satisfied. Thirty-three out of every 100 were displeased and 28 per cent had no opinion.

Dr. George Gallup, head of the Institute, thinks the UN is growing more popular because it has been growing more successful. Last summer, the major nations were in almost constant disagreement and the organization's prestige sank. Now, however, the delegates are cooperating on most issues and the UN's popularity is on the rise.

## Congressman Rayburn

Among Republicans in the new Congress, there was keen competition for positions of party leadership in the Senate and House of Representatives. Not so among the Democrats. Sam Rayburn of Texas virtually had to be



HARRIS & EWING  
Joseph Martin, Jr. (left), a Republican congressman who is now Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Sam Rayburn, Democrat, who was Speaker during the last session of Congress. He is now minority leader of the House.

"drafted" as minority leader of the House.

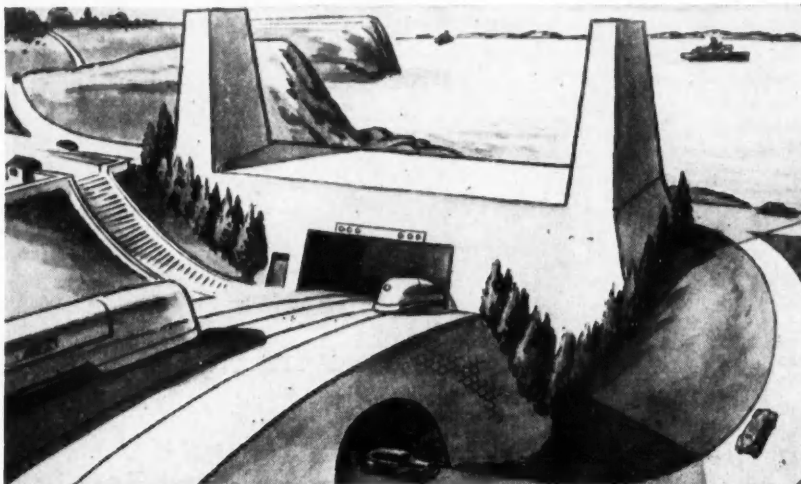
Rayburn, who had served as Speaker for six years and majority leader for three years while his party was in power, wanted no more executive responsibility. He wanted to give his full attention to legislation and to the problems of his constituents.

But Rayburn's long experience—he has been a congressman for 34 years—and his great ability have made him almost indispensable to his fellow Democrats in the House. At their repeated urging, he took the job. Now, as minority leader, he will have an important part in planning Democratic lawmaking strategy.

## World's Largest Islands

How many of the world's largest islands can you name? The National Geographic Society reports that the 10 largest, in order of their size, are: Greenland, New Guinea, Borneo, Madagascar, Baffin (off Canada's northeastern coast), Sumatra, Honshu, Great Britain, Victoria (off Canada's northern coast), and Ellesmere (north of Baffin Island).

There are thousands of islands in



PRESS ASSOCIATION  
SUGGESTIONS FOR THE TUNNEL. The picture on the left shows an artist's sketch of an entrance for the proposed tunnel under the English Channel. The map shows a possible location for the tunnel, the 22-mile stretch from Dover to Calais.



the world. In the Philippines alone, for example, there are more than 7,000. But the total area of all islands is not as great as that of the United States and Alaska combined. Only Greenland, New Guinea, and Borneo are larger than our state of Texas.

The most important of the 10 largest islands are Great Britain and Honshu (one of the islands which form the Japanese nation). They are the only two on the list which lie completely in what is known as the North Temperate Zone, the section of the earth which has the best climate for man.

## Census of Wildlife

An "aerial census" is now being conducted by the government's Fish and Wildlife Service. The wildlife experts think aerial photographs can tell them the approximate number of ducks and other waterfowl in the country. Then they can decide whether hunting restrictions should be eased or tightened.

Wildlife experts are using the airplane more and more in their work. In some western states, planes are used to drive antelopes into protected areas. The antelope likes to match his fleetness against that of a plane, and will follow a low-flying one for hours.

Game wardens use the airplane too. They make aerial checkups during the hunting season to see that hunters are not using illegal methods. The next step planned by our federal authorities

is an aerial survey of the nation's fish population.

## Tunnel under Channel

The British are once more talking of a tunnel under the English Channel to connect their country with France. In the past, many visitors to Europe bypassed England because they wanted to avoid the rough boat trip across the Channel. The British hope that a tunnel making this trip unnecessary will attract more tourists to their shores.

The main obstacle in the way of this project is lack of steel and other necessary materials. There are also ventilation problems to be solved before a new Channel tube can be undertaken. If the tunnel is built, it will be the longest underwater route in the world, stretching 22 miles from Dover to Calais.

## Columnist Stokes Complains

Columnist Thomas L. Stokes is today one of the country's leading news analysts. His articles appear in 12 newspapers of the Scripps-Howard chain and in 97 other papers besides.

But now, according to *Time* magazine, Stokes wants to withdraw his column from the Scripps-Howard papers. Stokes claims that some of these papers leave out his column whenever it presents an opinion in conflict with one of the day's editorials.

The question is: has an editor the

right to leave out columns with which he disagrees? Stokes' supporters say "no." They claim that if newspapers buy the exclusive right to publish a writer's views and then refuse to print them, they are withholding information from the public. Those on the other side argue that an editor has the right to decide what his paper shall feature under any circumstances. What do you think?

## Reporters Scooped

Newspaper writers are constantly seeking "scoops." Particularly in Washington, reporters use every conceivable means to get hints of coming government actions that have not yet been officially announced. In fact they have developed such skill in doing this that government officials rarely make an important move that has not already been predicted by some columnist or commentator.

Most newspapermen, however, were taken by surprise when Secretary of State Byrnes suddenly resigned and his position was given to George C. Marshall. On the morning after that change was announced, it was amusing to talk with Washington reporters, for the first question that most of them asked was, "When did you first hear about it?"

## Steering Committees

People do not always think alike, even when they are members of Congress belonging to the same party, and it is often hard for political leaders to keep their fellow Republicans or Democrats united. This is why the major parties maintain steering committees in both the Senate and the House of Representatives.

These committees have the big job of planning their party's policies and rounding up the vote in support of them. Whenever an important issue comes up, each party's steering committees meet to decide what stand the party should take. Then they try to win over any party members who disagree. No senator or representative has to follow his steering committee's program, but the majority of them usually do.

In the weeks ahead, steering committees in both houses of Congress will be busy planning party policy on labor, taxation, foreign affairs, and other important questions. Although they do a great deal of their work be-



A CENSUS is being taken of American wildlife.

GALLOWAY



hind the scenes, they are now an official part of our legislative machinery. Steering committees are almost as old as Congress itself, but it was not until the reorganization bill went into effect that they were formally recognized.

## Skiing Season

This is the season when ski enthusiasts take to the hills. The real experts can be seen whizzing down smooth, snowy slopes or soaring aloft in the incredible jumps for which the sport is famous. The amateurs are frequently found in more awkward positions. But skiing offers fun and excitement for skilled and unskilled alike, and increasing numbers of people are taking it up.

As an organized sport, skiing is not particularly old. Ski tournaments began about 1860 in Norway. In the United States, the sport has gained most of its present popularity since the First World War.

As a practical device, however, the ski has been in use for centuries. Like the snowshoe, it provides a means of transportation for people in almost all cold-weather countries. Army units

messages expressing his views on the nation's needs.

President Truman admitted freely that, as a Democrat, he might not be able to please the Republican majority in Congress on all points. But he asked the lawmakers to put politics aside and judge his proposals on their merits. He pleaded particularly for consideration of the following:

1. Measures to prevent nation-wide labor disputes in the future.
2. Help for the small businesses of the nation.
3. A vigorous long-range housing program.
4. Economy in the running of the government.
5. Guarantees of a fair profit for the nation's farmers.
6. A system of health insurance to provide medical care for all who need it.
7. A brief period of military training for all young men.
8. Aid to the homeless and hungry people of Europe.

Some of the President's proposals undoubtedly please Congress. It wants new labor laws, better housing, and less government spending. But there will be disagreements between Capitol Hill and the White House on just how these goals are to be reached.

## Looking Ahead to 1948

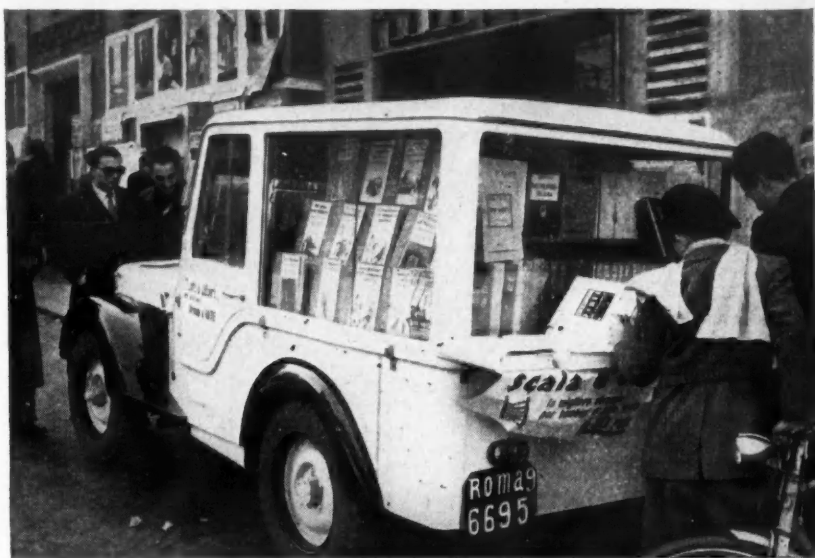
Now that they control Congress, the Republicans have their eyes on the White House. Numerous GOP leaders are already maneuvering for their party's presidential nomination in 1948. One—Minnesota's Harold Stassen—has actually announced that he will try to become a candidate.

Other chief contenders include Governor Thomas Dewey of New York, Senator Arthur Vandenberg of Michigan, and Senators Taft and Bricker of Ohio. The senators have one advantage because their positions in Congress will keep their names before the public. Vandenberg and Taft will be particularly influential in the Senate, the former as president pro tempore and the latter as majority leader.

## Diplomatic Progress

There are increasing indications that relations between Russia and the United States are improving. At a number of conferences—in the sessions of the Security Council and of the General Assembly, and in meetings of the Big Five Foreign Ministers—Russian and American representatives have found many grounds for agreement.

The tremendously important problem of atomic-energy inspection has been settled. An investigation of border incidents in Greece is now in progress.



**FROM WAR TO PEACE.** A jeep has been made into a mobile bookshop by an Italian publishing firm. Such service was popular in Rome before the war. Now that gasoline and transportation are available again, the mobile units are being revived.

ess. A date for discussing a treaty for Germany has been set.

Along with these encouraging developments, it was recently made known that the United States and Russia had cooperated successfully on a difficult assignment during the war. In that work, intelligence officers of the two countries had given each other many important tips on enemy activities.

All this is taken as evidence that the two countries can cooperate to find a firm basis for peace. Not all issues upon which there is disagreement have been solved, but diplomats and the public alike feel that Russia and the United States have begun to understand each other better. Warren Austin, our chief delegate to the UN, recently said that Russia has met us "halfway" on several important matters.

## Readers Say—

It was said in a letter recently that one of the main problems in the descent of Professor Piccard's bathysphere would be the tremendous pressure involved. This problem may not be as difficult as others. We live at the bottom of an ocean of air where the pressure on the entire body is tremendous. Because the internal pressure neutralizes the external pressure, we do not feel this weight. In the same way the pressure inside the bathysphere can be increased as the huge ball is lowered.

The greatest problem, as I see it, is to control a safe descent and ascent without cables. Underwater currents may make the job difficult.

THOMAS FUNAKUBO,  
Spokane, Washington.

You said recently that Mr. Rogge, prosecutor for the U. S. Department of Justice, was fired because he pointed out that certain American citizens have tried to build up pro-fascist opinion in this

country. What has become of our right to voice our own opinions?

The only way we can wipe out dangerous influences is to make an outright attack on them. We are discouraged from doing this if our government "dismisses" us from our jobs when we do speak up.

THERESA CHOPURA,  
Nanticoke, Pennsylvania.

Having read your articles on communism and fascism, I should like to say something. I lived in Latvia with my parents under Russian and German occupations. We finally escaped to the United States through Denmark and Sweden.

There is nothing more terrifying than to lose spiritual freedom. All the freedom Latvia had built up during her short independence was quickly destroyed under the occupation. Children did not even trust their parents.

Now after three months in America, I want to say this: American students should learn to be real democrats. They should bring light to the many nations suppressed by communism and fascism today. Millions need your help.

GEORGE BERGMANN,  
Ironwood, Michigan.

We are shocked by the uncompromising stand the supposedly democratic United States has taken in seeking control of the Pacific islands. Most people apparently do not recognize the relationship between Russian demands in the Balkans and American demands in the Pacific. Both nations want security, and a compromise can be found.

This is clearly an instance where a well-informed public opinion could exert the right kind of pressure on our officials.

MODERN HISTORY CLASS,  
SALEM ACADEMY,  
Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

I do not see why President Truman and the Congress now controlled by Republicans cannot get along. The two should be able to agree on what measures are for the good of the people.

There have been stalemates before in history when the President and a majority of Congress were of different political parties, but this is no reason for the same thing to happen again. I thought we studied history so that we would not make the mistakes our ancestors made.

HELEN LACH,  
Akron, Ohio.

(Editor's note: We want to thank the many readers who have written to this column during the first semester. Unfortunately we have not had the space to publish all your letters. Keep on writing, and one of your letters is certain to appear in the paper. The unpublished ones are not wasted, for the editorial staff benefits from the ideas they contain.)

This column will be continued during the second semester. When you write, be sure to put the name of your city on the letter as well as the envelope. Your letter should also indicate that it is written to the AMERICAN OBSERVER. Otherwise, it may, by mistake, be published in one of our other papers.)



Mrs. Edward Crosson of Wilmington, Del., is the only woman member of the Philadelphia Model Car Club, which runs weekly trials of midsize autos. The cars can go faster than 100 miles per hour. They average about 10 miles on three ounces of fuel—a mixture of alcohol and castor oil. The machines are from 13 to 16 inches long, and from 6 to 8 inches wide.

in the Scandinavian countries are known to have used skis as early as 1710.

## The President's Program

It is still too soon to tell what kind of lawmaking program the Republicans mean to introduce in the new session of Congress. But we do know what the President wants. In the first week of the session, he delivered three



"Has anyone ever considered giving it a trial?"

POINTER IN DETROIT FREE PRESS



# Argentina

(Concluded from page 1)

the sidewalk cafes remind one of the French capital. The skyscrapers, though not as high as New York's, are still impressive. Some of the shopping districts rival the best to be seen in the cities of the United States.

The population of Buenos Aires, like that of New York, is cosmopolitan. Many nationalities are represented. The crowds milling about the streets are very similar to those which may be seen in the large cities of our own country.

Throughout Argentina the population is of mixed origin. Nearly a fifth of the people are foreign-born. Large numbers of the Argentines are of Italian or Spanish descent. The language is Spanish, but English is spoken by many of the people, especially the shopkeepers and others who come in contact with foreign visitors.

Such is the Argentina of today, the nation which President Peron plans to change so drastically within the next few years. Peron intends, among other things, to make his country more nearly self-sufficient. He thinks it is not a good thing for the Argentines to be so completely dependent upon foreigners for manufactured goods. Hence he plans to build factories which will make many of the industrial products which the people need.

If manufacturing industries are developed, the Argentines will not only be independent of foreigners, but they will enjoy certain other advantages. Employment in the factories can be furnished to workers, and it is expected that this will raise the standard of living.

## Stronger Militarily

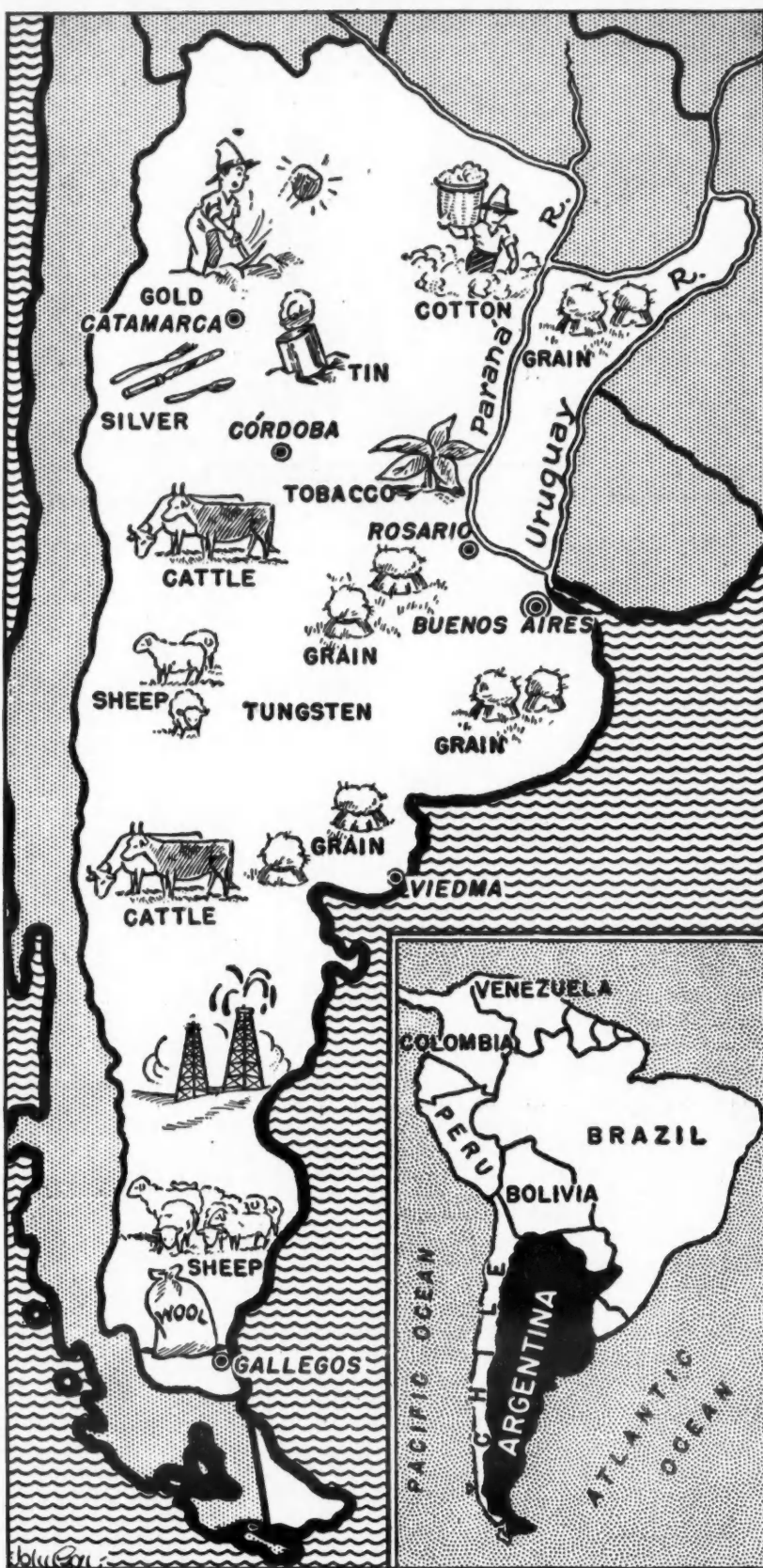
Furthermore—and this is an important point—Argentina will be stronger in a military sense. A rural nation cannot easily supply itself with implements of war, but if manufacturing plants are set up they may be used to manufacture war materials.

Peron's plan provides for the building of plants to produce military materials. He is to have power to spend as much as he pleases for war preparation. He does not have to wait for Congress to appropriate the money for this purpose. He intends to modernize the armed forces and prepare effectively for war.

A difficulty which has stood in the way of developing manufacturing in the past has been the lack of fuel. Argentina does not produce much coal. Peron and his planners must, therefore, find an adequate fuel supply. They can get some coal from Chile, but they will not depend wholly upon it. They intend to build 40 new electric-power plants to furnish electricity. They will build a 1,000-mile pipeline to carry gas from the oil fields of southern Argentina to the centers of industry.

A great public-works program is to be carried out. Hospitals and other public buildings will be constructed. This will improve the lot of the people and will also give employment to workers. A billion dollars is to be spent for harbor improvements and for the construction of highways and railroads.

If a big development program is to be followed throughout the nation, more workers may be needed than Ar-



Land and products of Argentina

gentina can supply. Peron will meet this situation by encouraging immigration. He hopes to bring in a quarter of a million foreign laborers within the next five years.

President Peron will follow the example of Hitler and Mussolini by providing many benefits for the common people. In doing this his motives will be mixed. He no doubt has a genuine interest in the public welfare. He knows further that if a great deal is done for the poorer sections of the population, he will be assured of their continued support.

One of these benefits is the provision of medical care which is to be given without charge to all persons unable to pay for it. Another is the providing of free recreational centers for workers.

Under the five-year plan, education is to be completely controlled and dominated by President Peron. He will have the power to appoint professors

in the universities and teachers in the schools. He has complete charge of the school courses and may decide what shall be taught. He has already dismissed hundreds of teachers whom he suspects of being unfriendly to him.

With many of the purposes of the Peron government, the people of the United States and other Western Hemisphere nations can sympathize. Any country has a right to expand its industries, to make itself more self-sufficient, to raise living standards. Outsiders can scarcely object to such policies. What worries the people of the United States and some of Argentina's nearer neighbors is the establishment of a military-minded, fascist dictatorship in the Western Hemisphere.

That is what the Argentine government under Peron has become. Peron was indeed elected by the people of Argentina in what seems to have been

a fair election. It may be assumed that a majority of the Argentines support him at the present time, but that does not make him less dangerous. The fact is that power is concentrated in the hands of one man, and this man has embarked upon a program of industrial and militaristic expansion.

There is little doubt that the governing group in Argentina wishes to make their country strong enough so that it can compete with the United States for leadership in the Western Hemisphere. This may seem to be a forlorn hope, for Argentina is a much smaller nation than the United States. But Peron and the group around him hope to align the South American countries on their side. They may seek to do this both by persuasion and by a display of armed strength.

Argentina is stronger than any other South American country. If she can become the recognized leader throughout South America, she may establish a bloc of nations, fascist in character, which might be very troublesome to our own country.

When account is taken of such ambitions, the hurried development of industrial and military power by the Argentine dictatorship becomes a matter of concern to Latin America and the United States.

## What to Do?

What, if anything, can we do about it? One suggestion frequently heard is that the United States should break diplomatic relations with Argentina as a protest against the fascist character of her government. It is doubtful, however, whether much would be gained by such a policy. Trade between nations usually falls off when diplomatic relations are broken, but we do not trade extensively with Argentina, anyway, so she would not be greatly hurt by our action.

If Argentina should take steps which would disturb peace, or threaten to do so, the United States and other Western Hemisphere nations might work together to prevent aggression. They could quit buying from Argentina or selling to her so long as she was aggressive in her conduct. The effectiveness of such a policy would depend on how many Latin American countries adopted it.

The problem of militarism and fascism in Argentina could also be taken up by the United Nations. If the UN puts a genuine disarmament program into effect, military-minded countries, such as Argentina, will be under constant international observation.

When the nations agree to disarm or to cut armaments, the UN will send inspectors into all nations to see that the rules are being obeyed. Such inspectors could find out whether the Argentines were arming for war, and if they were, the UN could force them to stop.

Many Americans feel that the danger of Argentine militarism has been overrated. They want our government to adopt a more friendly policy toward that country until there is definite proof it is a menace to the peace of this hemisphere.

Here is what former Secretary of State Byrnes had to say the evening that his resignation was announced: "There are only two happy days a man has in public life. There is the day he is elected or appointed to office. Then there is the day he quits. So you see this is a happy night."



## Historical Backgrounds

By David S. Muzzey

**M**EDICAL science in the United States has made great progress during the past 300 years. During the colonial period of our history, illnesses were treated with home remedies which were based on ignorance and superstition. There were very few doctors in the colonies, and the most elementary principles of hygiene were unknown.

There were no medical schools for the training of doctors, nor were those who wished to practice medicine required to obtain a license. Anyone with a smattering of medical knowledge could set himself up as a doctor.

All kinds of herbs and strange mixtures were given to the patients. Bleeding was practiced by nearly all doctors because it was supposed to drain off the poisons which caused sickness. Actually such treatment weakened the patient at a time when he most needed all his strength. It is generally felt, for example, that this early medical practice shortened George Washington's life.

Throughout the colonial period, epidemics took a terrible toll of human life. Malaria and yellow fever were very common in the South, and in all colonies smallpox took the lives of hundreds of the early settlers. As late as 1793 a yellow fever epidemic swept the city of Philadelphia. The disease struck fear into the hearts of the people, for no known remedies were effective against it.

As doctors increased their knowledge during the early 1800's, standards of medical care were raised, but they were still not high when compared to modern practice. In rural areas the family doctor often traveled long distances by horseback to reach his patients. He carried all his medicines and crude surgical instruments in his saddlebags. Many families in remote frontier areas never saw a doctor from one year to the next. When serious illnesses developed, no medical care at all was available.

Great strides were made in medical science during the 19th century. Vaccination against smallpox greatly diminished the cases of that dread disease. Anesthetics to relieve pain were introduced in 1847 and made possible the development of modern surgery. The power of antiseptics to prevent infection became known, and the necessity for cleanliness and fresh air was recognized. Means of controlling malaria, yellow fever, and other epidemic diseases were gradually developed.

In more recent years the X ray has come into common use, and research has shown the importance of vitamins, sunlight, and a balanced diet. Sulpha drugs and penicillin have proved to be great life savers. The death rate among the American people has been sharply reduced. Progress is being recorded today in the fight against cancer, infantile paralysis, heart disease, and tuberculosis, but much still needs to be done if America is to continue to grow in health and strength.



David S. Muzzey



FEW ARABS IN PALESTINE have adopted the more up-to-date methods of farming. Consequently they do not get as much from the land as they might

## Changes Seen in Palestine

Jewish Immigrants Bring Modern Ways But Much More Can Be Done When Present Conflict Ends

**T**HE conflict between the Arabs and Jews over Palestine still goes on. The British are having to use increasing force to prevent the opposing groups from fighting on a large scale.

Violence, of course, is nothing new for Palestine. Regarded as a Holy Land by three great religions—Christian, Jewish, and Moslem—it has often been the scene of conflict among them. In addition to being an area in which these three religions meet, it is a land in which the ancient exists side by side with the modern. In farming methods, transportation, buildings, styles of clothing, and other phases of life, the contrast between the old and the new can be seen. The varying customs of the Jews and Arabs place added strain on the relations between the two peoples.

Palestine is similar in size and population to the state of Maryland. In spite of the migration of Jews to Palestine since World War I, the Arabs still outnumber them two to one.

Palestine's most fertile farming area is on the narrow coastal plain along the Mediterranean, and on the slope which rises from this plain to an inland plateau. In a climate which resembles that of southern California, farmers raise the same crops that were familiar in the Holy Land many centuries ago—grain, grapes, figs, and olives—and also cotton, tobacco, fruits, and melons.

In general, the Arabs have small, family-type farms, while Jewish farm work is done in cooperative communities. It is largely the Jews who have brought modern methods to Palestine's agriculture. They have set up irrigation projects, worked to stop erosion of the soil, and tried to improve the country's livestock.

Since the Jews started to enter Palestine in large numbers, industry there has grown rapidly. They have built flour mills, soap factories, brick and tile works, and textile mills. Many Jewish diamond cutters have come in from Europe, and have brought their industry with them. Hydro-electric plants have been built on the Jordan River, which flows along the eastern edge of Palestine, through the Sea of Galilee, and into the Dead Sea.

It is estimated that the Dead Sea contains chemical salts worth several

hundred billion dollars. Plants which produce various chemical products are being developed near it. The Sea of Galilee, on the other hand, consists of fresh water and supplies large quantities of fish.

Despite the improvement in farming methods, and the growth of industry, both of these require additional development if Palestine is to prosper and support a larger population. More land awaits irrigation. More factories are needed.

Just prior to World War II, the amount of goods that Palestine was buying from other countries exceeded the amount that she was able to sell abroad. Among the products that came from other lands were wheat and flour, sugar, textiles, building materials, and machinery. In return, though less in total value, Palestine shipped out such items as polished diamonds, chocolates, soap, orchard and vineyard products, and hides. Her people also made money by serving tourists.

Still famous among Palestine's cities is Jerusalem, with a population of about 150,000. But Haifa, Tel Aviv, and Jaffa, on the shore of the Mediterranean, are also important. The most unusual of these is the modern, all-Jewish city of Tel Aviv, which, though founded during the present century, has become almost as large as ancient Jerusalem.

## Straight Thinking

By Clay Coss

**W**HAT is prejudice? How does it warp our thinking and color our acts? Where do our prejudices come from, and how may they be combated? These are among the questions which are answered by Hortense Powdermaker in a pamphlet, "Probing our Prejudices," published by Harper's. The following quotations are from the first chapter of the pamphlet.

"We frequently do not know how a prejudice arose or when it first began. We may not even be aware that we have any. But whether or not we are aware of prejudices, they influence our behavior. They may influence us even more if we are unaware of them. Our first problem therefore is to be able to recognize a prejudice, either our own or that of other people.

"Some of us have more prejudices than others. There are also differences in kind and intensity of prejudices. Not all prejudices are harmful. For instance, we all have prejudices against certain foods which we may never have tasted but which we have made up our minds in advance we would dislike.

"Our daily life is full of harmless prejudices. For instance, we may have definite likes and dislikes about colors without knowing exactly why. If you are a girl, blue may be your favorite color and you may dislike red. But your friend may have the opposite taste. In either case, the preference may have nothing to do with which color is the more becoming."

The author says that while we may express our dislike of certain foods or colors of clothing without doing any harm, this policy toward people may do definite harm. If you express unreasoning prejudices against people whom you dislike for no good reason, they will be made "to feel unwanted and inferior. Even before they have an opportunity to prove themselves, they have been discriminated against."

The Allies have agreed to permit Germany to build a fleet of fishing vessels. The boats will be small, and will not be able to travel at high speeds.



## Your Vocabulary

In each of the following, choose the word or phrase which the sentence defines, or which is similar in meaning to the italicized word. Turn to page 8, column 4, for correct answers.

1. You would expect an *affable* person to be: (a) courteous (b) insincere (c) foolish (d) rude (e) puzzling.

2. The prisoner was considered *incorrigible* (in-kor'i-jī-bl). (a) blameless (b) surly and rough (c) peculiar (d) incapable of correction.

3. A person who is inclined to be silent and reserved may be called: (a) inert (b) rueful (c) implicit (d) reticent (e) fervent.

4. They spread *insidious* (in-sid'-ee-us) propaganda. (a) useful (b) radical (c) treacherous (d) foolish.

5. Most of us have had a feeling of *nostalgia* (nös-täl'jī-uh) at one time or another. (a) jealousy (b) indigestion (c) homesickness (d) disgust (e) excitement.

6. That is a *prosaic* (prō-zay'ick) expression. (a) commonplace (b) unusual (c) disagreeable (d) appropriate.

7. To work with another is to (a) corroborate (b) collaborate (c) coagulate (d) commiserate.



## Careers for Tomorrow - - Recreational Field

**P**ROSPECTS in the field of physical recreation work appear to be promising. As a result of war experience, people are more health conscious than they have been. Thousands of new playgrounds and recreational facilities are being planned.

Recreational work is a comparatively new field. In 1910, there were only 3,300 persons employed as recreation workers in the entire nation. By 1930, the number was 25,000, and 10 years later it had more than doubled. Within a few years after the war, the number of workers in this field will probably be much larger than ever before.

One who enters this work must be physically fit and must possess a liking for all sorts of games and athletics. He must be sociable, patient, good-humored, kind, and fond of young people and able to play games with them.

Teachers of physical education in schools have, up to now, fared better than others engaged in recreation work. Unlike playground directors, they have steadier employment, and their earnings are consequently higher.

In addition to teaching gym classes, the physical education instructor coaches school teams and often conducts courses in health and hygiene. The earnings are similar to those of most other teachers. They vary considerably from state to state. A four-year college course, with specialization in athletics and physical education, is generally the required preparation for the position.

The work of a playground director is somewhat different from that of the physical education teacher, but

since it is largely a summertime job, one person may handle both positions. On the playground, one must be able to lead games of all kinds, and should be trained in organizing group singing, dramatic productions, and other entertainments.

The average playground leader receives about \$30 to \$40 a week when he first gets a job. If he or she is college-trained and is equipped to take a supervisory job over several playgrounds in a community, the salary may start at about \$50 a week. Higher incomes are the rule in large cities, but the better positions are more limited in number.

While one cannot expect to earn a large income at this work, the chances of making a moderate living are good, and the work is pleasant, healthful, and varied.

While the number of men engaged in physical education and recreation work is somewhat larger than the number of women, it is a field which is holding forth more and more opportunities to well-trained young women.

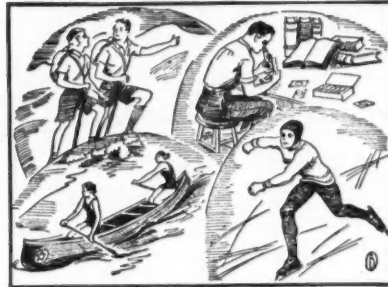
Before the war, a large percentage of the recreation leaders of the country were inadequately trained for their work. More emphasis is now placed upon proper training. Those who are contemplating such a career would do well, both in high school and college, to take as many courses as possible in physical education, recreation, and health. Courses in dramatics and other types of group work will be helpful.

It must be admitted that recreational and physical education work, like teaching in general, does not of-

fer promising opportunities to those who are concerned chiefly with making money.

Teaching, and all youth training activities, however, give one considerable security. They appeal to those who wish to serve public interests, and they attract persons who enjoy the training of youth.

For further information, write to the National Recreation Association,



DRAWINGS FROM "ADVENTURES IN RECREATION" BY WEAVER WEDDELL FANGBORN, PUBLISHED BY BARNES

315 Fourth Avenue, New York City. Among other things, it publishes the best magazine in this field.

New histories of the nation's leading businesses and industries are now being written. Students in a number of colleges are at work on this project.

### Pronunciations

Buenos Aires—bō' nus ā' reez or bway' nus ī' reez  
Calais—kāl-ā'  
Cordoba—cor-dō' bah  
Callegos—gal lee' gōs  
Haifa—high' fū  
Parana—pah-rāh' nuh  
Peron—pear' on  
Sumatra—soom-ah' trah  
Tel Aviv—tell' ū-veev'

## Study Guide

### State Department

1. Why is it generally believed that General Marshall will be a good Secretary of State?
2. True or false: The Secretary of State has complete power to decide upon American foreign policies.
3. About how many people are employed by the State Department?
4. What are some of the divisions within the State Department?
5. What are some of the duties of ambassadors and ministers and their staffs?
6. Why will Marshall probably receive more criticism as Secretary of State than he did as Chief of Staff of the Army?

### Discussion

1. Do you think that, on the whole, James F. Byrnes made a good record as Secretary of State?
2. Do you think it is a good thing for a military leader to occupy the position of Secretary of State?

### Argentina

1. Compare the United States and Argentina as to size and population.
2. What are the chief occupations in Argentina at present?
3. What are the reasons why Peron wishes to develop manufacturing industries?
4. Describe some of the important features of Argentina's Five-Year Plan.
5. What power over education does Peron have? Why does he want to control the schools?
6. What do the people of the United States dislike about Argentina's program?

### Discussion

1. What evidence is there for the statement that the Peron government is fascist in character?
2. What, if anything, should the United States do to check fascism and militarism in Argentina? If some action is desirable, should the United States act alone or in cooperation with other nations? Give reasons for your answer.

### Miscellaneous

1. Define these political words: *Congressional Record*, rider, quorum, and pairing.
2. What positions do Joseph Martin, Jr. and Sam Rayburn hold in the present Congress?
3. How are airplanes being used to protect our wildlife?
4. Discuss briefly the work of a steering committee.
5. Give some of the main problems President Truman is asking Congress to consider as it plans its legislative program.
6. What evidence is there that relations between Russia and the United States have improved?
7. Skiing is known primarily as a sport in this country, but what practical use does it have elsewhere?
8. Name some of the leading Republicans who may seek their party's nomination for the Presidency in 1948.

### Answers to Vocabulary Quiz

1. (a) courteous; 2. (d) incapable of correction; 3. (d) reticent (rēt'isent); 4. (c) treacherous; 5. (c) homesickness; 6. (a) commonplace; 7. (b) collaborate.

## Political Terms You Should Know

### They Appear Frequently in News Articles

**Calendar:** The schedule telling in what order bills are to be debated by the legislature.

**Closure or Cloture:** A rule limiting the time devoted to debate. In the House, speaking time is strictly rationed among the members, but it takes a two-thirds vote to apply the closure rule in the Senate.

**Committee of the Whole:** The entire House when it has voted to sit as a single committee in considering a particular bill.

**Congressional Record:** A government publication covering the debates and votes of each day that Congress is in session.

**Constituent:** A voter in a congressman's district or in a senator's state.

**Executive Order:** An order issued by the President to supplement a law passed by Congress. Executive orders are used when laws are passed in very general terms or when they grant the President special power.

**Franking Privilege:** The right of congressmen and federal administrators to mail official letters free.

**Pairing:** The custom in which two opposing legislators, whose votes would merely cancel each other, agree not to vote on a bill.

**Patronage:** Appointments to public office as a reward for party service.

**Pocket Veto:** The defeat of a bill which is passed by Congress less than 10 days before adjournment because

the President neither signs nor vetoes it before Congress adjourns.

**Pork Barrel Laws:** Laws authorizing federal-financed projects of doubtful necessity. Legislators sponsor pork barrel laws in the effort to make themselves popular at home by bringing federal funds into their districts.

**President Pro Tempore:** A senator elected to preside over the Senate in the absence of the Vice President.

**Quorum:** The minimum number of legislators legally able to transact business for the entire legislature. A



FROM "HOW CONGRESS MAKES LAWS" BY C. C. DILL  
Under the closure rule he would not be permitted to talk on indefinitely

simple majority is usually sufficient.

**Rider:** When a congressman wants to put through a measure which has no hope of being approved, he tacks it on to an important bill in the attempt to have it ride through on the bill's coat-tail.

**Senatorial Courtesy:** The unwritten rule that the Senate will not confirm a presidential appointment to a federal post within a state without the approval of the senators from the state.

**Seniority:** The rule that positions on congressional committees are filled by members according to their length of service.

**Viva Voce:** The "voice vote," in which legislators indicate their preferences on a question by saying "aye" or "nay." (Vī'va vō'seh.)

**Whip:** The party official in a legislature who enforces party discipline by rounding up members to vote on critical issues, by polling them to ascertain their feelings in advance of the vote, and by keeping them informed about changes in party policy.

### Outside Reading

#### Argentina

"Portrait of Argentina's 'Strong Man,'" by Frank Kluckhohn, *New York Times Magazine*, December 1, 1946. Description and criticism of Peron.

"Can We Run Argentina?" by Hubert Herring, *Harper's*, October 1946. American mistakes in dealing with Argentina; also an outline of some reasons for Peron's rise to power.

#### State Department

"U. S. Foreign Service," *Fortune*, July 1946. A good article about those who represent us abroad.

"Treaties and Senators," by Merlo Pusey, *Forum*, October 1946. Commenting on the need for cooperation between the State Department and the Senate.